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## Pierce County's Older Population

A summary of data from the U.S. Census, 2000

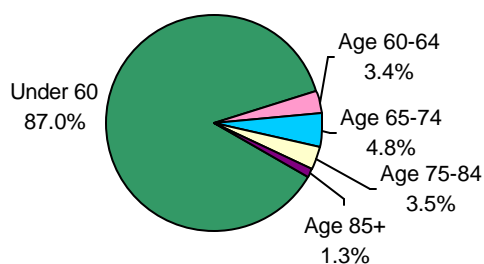
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### Population:

The proportion of people age 65 and older in Pierce County is lower than that of the state as a whole (9.6% versus 13.1%). The rate of growth in the older population since 1990 has been much slower in this county than in the state as a whole (1.5% versus 7.9%). In all, 3,539 people in this county are age 65 or older, and 477 of these are age 85 or older. Pierce County's average (or median) age is 32.1 years, compared to a statewide median of 36.0 years.

Pierce County: Population and Change Since 1990						
	2000 Census		1990 Census		Change: 1990-2000	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% Change
Total, All Ages	36,804		32,765		4,039	12.3%
Persons 60 and over	4,773	13.0%	4,538	13.9%	235	5.2%
Persons 65 and over	3,539	9.6%	3,485	10.6%	54	1.5%
Persons 85 and over	477	1.3%	402	1.2%	75	18.7%

**Age Groups, 2000: Percent of Pierce County Population in Each Group**



### Race:

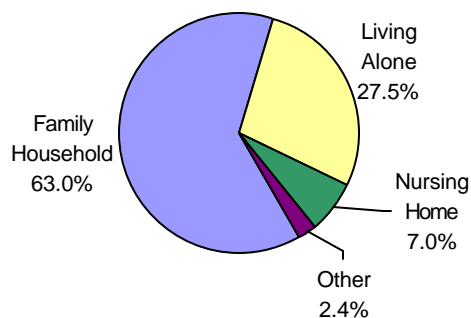
A large majority (99.6%) of Pierce County's 65 and over population is white. On average, the county's minority groups are younger than whites. Pierce County African Americans have a median age of 21.9 years, and the median age of Hispanics/Latinos here is 21.2 years. Whites, in contrast, average 32.5 years.

### Living Arrangements:

Of the 13,015 households in Pierce County, 2,394 include at least one person age 65 or older (18.4% of all households). A total of 2,251 housing units in the county have a "household head" aged 65 or older, and 79.0% of these are owner occupied (the rest are rented).

A majority (63.0%) of the older population lives in "family households" containing at least two people related by blood or marriage, but another 27.5% of people 65 or older live alone. Of those older people in family households, 3.3% are living in the home of one of their children. A total of 249 people age 65 and older live in Pierce County nursing homes (7.0% of all those in this age group). A very small number of the county's older residents live in nonfamily households or in other institutions.

**Living Arrangements of Pierce County Residents Age 65+**



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**SOURCE:** U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Summary File 1.

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